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SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 6

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Dear Mr. Wagman:

Based on the data provided by Paul DiPerna about the take-up rate of public school students of tax credit scholarships in other states, there are two percentages to consider.

First, the median take-up rate for public school students is 0.6 percent. That is, 0.6 percent of public school students accept a tax credit scholarship and enroll in a private school in the following year.

Second, 0.4 percent—the take-up rate in Indiana. This is the lowest take-up rate for public school students of any state with a tax credit scholarship program.

Using the lower of these two figures, the state of Montana can expect that 0.4 percent of public school students would seek to enroll in a private school via a tax credit scholarship. Thus, if there are about 142,000 public school students in Montana, we should expect that 568 of them would accept a tax credit scholarship and enroll in a private school ( $0.004 \times 142,000 = 568$ ). I believe this assumption is cautious given that I chose the lowest take-up rate in the nation.

Benjamin Scafidi

Professor of Economics

Director, Economics of Education Policy Center

Georgia College & State University

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*Georgia College & State University, established in 1889, is Georgia's Public Liberal Arts University.  
University System of Georgia*

The latest participation rates (as a % of "eligible students") for the States' tax-credit scholarship programs.

STATE	NAME OF TAX CREDIT	YEARS IN EXISTENCE	PARTICIPATION %
Arizona	Personal Tax Credits for Tuition Organizations	16 school years	2.3%
Arizona	Corporate Tax Credits for Tuition Organizations	8 school years	0.6%
Arizona	Lexie's Law Corporate Tax Credits	5 school years	0.1%
Florida	Florida Tax Credit Scholarship	11 school years	7.2%
Georgia	Private School Tax Credit for Donations to SSOs	5 school years	0.6%
Indiana	School Scholarship Tax Credit	3 school years	0.4%
Iowa	School Tuition Organization Tax Credit	7 school years	3.6%
Louisiana	Tax Credit for Donations to School Tuition Organizations,	<b>*NEW*</b>	
New Hampshire	Corporate Education Tax Credit	<b>*NEW*</b>	
Oklahoma	Equal Opportunity Education Scholarships	<b>*NEW*</b>	
Pennsylvania	Educational Improvement Tax Credit	12 school years	4.0%
Pennsylvania,	Educational Opportunity Tax Credit	<b>*NEW*</b>	
Rhode Island	Tax Credits for Contributions to Scholarship Organizations	7 school years	0.5%
Virginia	Education Improvement Scholarships	<b>*NEW*</b>	

Source:

Paul DiPerna, Research Director for the Foundation for Educational Choice, based in Indianapolis, IN. He joined the foundation in September 2006. Paul's research interests include surveys and polling on K-12 and school choice issues. He has developed and issued more than 15 state polls to date. Paul's other responsibilities include managing and editing all research projects commissioned by the foundation.